



Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

ELW

“Living God’s Love”

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256

330-725-8885 † office@stmatthewmedina.org

www.stmatthewmedina.org

GATHERING

** Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

Good News Moments

Jen Knaggs

Prelude

*Confession & Forgiveness

P: In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

C: Amen.

*Gathering Song

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

No. 324

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Shelley Nelson-Bridger

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Psalm

Psalm 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts
of joy.
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things
for them."**
³The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**
⁵Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

*Gospel

John 12:1-8

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Shelley Nelson-Bridger

***Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

P: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Do a new thing in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer
serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of
doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Do a new thing for creation. Reverse the trajectory of climate change and
environmental catastrophe. Revive habitats already impaired by human
disregard. Amplify the voices of climate scientists and researchers
working to chart a new course. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Do a new thing in our world. Break barriers that prevent political enemies
from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace and
collaboration among the nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Do a new thing for those who suffer. Reveal a path for any who are unemployed or underemployed, for those experiencing homelessness, and for all who struggle with money. Comfort those who grieve and restore those who are sick especially Dan Stuhm, Justin, Diane Hulvey, Lisa Henriksen, Esther Svoboda, Lennie Davis, Steve Combs, Jim Frame, John Siebert, and all people suffering from Covid-19. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Do a new thing within us. Direct us into encounters that broaden our understanding of the human experience. Amplify voices that are ignored or devalued. Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Be with us as we look to the future of our Transitional Housing ministry. Guide us and help us to be open to your voice as we discern how we will continue to offer help to those in need. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Do a new thing in our death. Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection as we give thanks for (*names* and) all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

***Peace:** *The peace will be an acknowledgement with your neighbor of God's reconciling love by nod or bow.*

MEAL

Offertory

Lamb of God (11:00)
Paris/Mayfield

Luther Choir

Offering Prayer

P: Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

***Eucharistic Prayer**

***Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

***Invitation to Communion**

P: Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

Communion Hymn

Take My Life, That I May Be

No. 685

***Table Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body,
the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a
world in need.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

***Sending Song**

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

No. 338

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

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WORSHIP SERVANTS

Date	April 3	April 3	April 10	April 10
Service	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolyte				
Reader	Adam Scheid	Lisa Burke		
Ushers	Alan & Delores Ivan	Todd & Melody Costello		
Communion Servers		Lisa Burke		Melody Costello
Sound	Joe Obermeier	Larry Mohler	Joe Obermeier	Larry Mohler
Video	Rex Rickly		Brian Harris	
Altar Guild	Kelly Obermeier		Sandy Andrews	

PRAYERS

Altar Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God.

Prayers for Healing: Dan Stuhm, Justin, Diane Hulvey, Lisa Henriksen, Esther Svoboda, Lennie Davis, Steve Combs, Jim Frame, John Siebert, and all people suffering from Covid-19.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Today, Fifth Sunday in Lent, we worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with ELW liturgy and communion. Livestream at 8:30.

We Welcome Pastor Shelley Nelson-Bridger as our supply pastor.

Luther Littles Sunday School (Pre-School-5th grade) - 9:45 a.m. in the Brown Room

Luther Middles/Catechism (6-8 grades)- Spring Break - No class today.

Adult Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Last Day to Help Beautify Our Sanctuary on Easter! A member of the Altar Guild will be in the narthex following each worship service today, Sunday, April 3. We will be taking orders for single (\$11) and double lilies (\$24) and spring flowers -- tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths (\$10). Payment, cash or checks made out to *St. Matthew Lutheran Church*, is appreciated at the time of the order. Look for Nancy Weygandt after the 8:30 service; and Lisa Burke after the 11:00 service.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Lenten Meal at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by Lenten Worship - Holden Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 10, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, we will worship in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 with ELW liturgy and communion. Livestream at 8:30.

We Will Welcome Pastor Shelley Nelson-Bridger as our supply pastor.

Luther Littles Sunday School (Pre-School-5th grade) - 9:45 a.m. in the Brown Room

Luther Middles/Catechism (6-8 grades) - 9:45 a.m. in the green room.

Adult Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Boyert's Resurrection Garden Class - Sponsored by Comprehensive Youth - All are welcome! 3:00 p.m. at Boyert's. Cost is \$15 per garden.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Meals & Worship - Join us each Wednesday evening in Lent beginning with a meal at 6:00 p.m., followed by Lenten Worship at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Passion Walk - The Care Connection Team and Small Groups invite you to attend the Passion Walk at Zion Lutheran Church, Valley City, April 9 and 10. Remember the Passion of Christ as you walk through scenes enacted by members of Zion - from the Last Supper to His Crucifixion. Groups start every 15 minutes, beginning at 6:15 to 8:00 p.m. Free and open to all ages!

Good Friday Lunch - The Comprehensive Youth Ministry is holding a Lunch on Good Friday (April 15) at 12:00 p.m. as a way to teach our youth the importance of Good Friday using our senses. Everyone welcome!

Easter Breakfast - On Easter Sunday, the Luther League will host an Easter Fellowship Breakfast in between services. Please join us for a breakfast of muffins, bagels, fresh fruit, and egg dishes. If you would like to donate any items, please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact the Luther League officers at stmatllmedina@gmail.com.

Painting Party - We have reserved All Fired Up on the Square just for St. Matthew on Friday, April 22 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm! Pick a piece of pottery (or more) to paint and get 20% off your total. Bring a snack/dessert/drink to share if you wish. We are limited to 34 people based on the studio's size. Sign up at <https://www.facebook.com/events/507874554253932/> or on the poster in the Narthex.

Ladies Kentucky Derby Luncheon - Mark your calendar for our annual Ladies Luncheon on May 1, 2022 at 12:30. Invite your daughters, sisters and/or girlfriends to join us for a beautiful day to celebrate us! Our theme will be Kentucky Derby, so break out the hats, fascinators and gloves! Look for additional details and Sign-Up Genius coming soon! Sign up in the narthex.

Golf Outing - Come enjoy a fun evening of golf at Bunker Hill Golf Course with St. Matthew friends and guests on Thursday, June 16. Arrive at 5:30 p.m. for warm-ups. Tee times begin at 6:00 p.m. Guests are welcome. The cost for nine holes, a cart, and a light dinner following golf is \$45 per person. Watch for sign up information coming soon. *Sponsored by Small Groups*

Pull Tab Collection - Join in tab collecting with others in our area to support Ronald McDonald House in Akron and Cleveland. All pull tabs are accepted! (pet food, soup, veggies, beverages, etc.) There are containers located in the Narthex and the Room of the Cross to deposit your pull tabs. If you have any questions, call Joyce at 216-780-0965.



Would you like to join the Welcome Wagon??

While we are all counting down the days until Pastor Steve joins us, we are looking for people and ideas to help make him feel welcome in our family of faith. Would you like to help?? Great!! Help comes in all shapes and sizes, so don't be shy.

Please contact Jen Knaggs (330-413-0529 or jenknaggs@yahoo.com) and share your willingness, ideas, and enthusiasm. And be on the look out for a Good News Moment Sunday April 3, 2022.

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

Deacon Lindsay Bailey	Director of LGL Ministries
John Burke	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Custodian
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM



Hearing Loop
System available.